



GOLD RUSH

JUNE 2015

NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

GO FIGURE

70.2%

The percentage of NKU student-athletes who posted grade-point-averages of 3.0 or above. The spring GPA for all student-athletes was 3.20.

1,780

The total number of students who graduated from NKU on Saturday, May 9 during the university's 43rd Commencement. The occasion marked one of the largest graduating classes in NKU history.

1,200

The number of cities that have adopted the life-saving PulsePoint app, originally developed at NKU.



NKU TO DEMONSTRATE HOW HIGHER EDUCATION BENEFITS LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND NATION

Northern Kentucky University has joined a select group of national peers to pilot a new State College and University (SCU) messaging platform that will underscore, in one voice, the impact that state colleges and universities have on their communities and the nation.

The platform will be led by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU), comprised of more than 400 public colleges, universities, and systems across the country. Like NKU, these institutions share a long-standing commitment to underserved student populations and a dedication to research and creativity that makes them uniquely different from land grant or research universities and community and technical colleges.

"We are proud to partner with the AASCU to help tell the special story of our nation's State Colleges and Universities," said NKU President Geoffrey Means. "We have spent much of the past year studying those qualities and characteristics that define us as SCUs. We look forward to articulating those qualities in a meaningful way that will strengthen understanding and appreciation for the distinctive features we share with our SCU peers."

Participating members helped to develop a unifying theme—"Opportunities for All"—based on three core values shared by SCUs: high quality, accessibility, and responsibility.

As a state university, NKU provides a viable, high quality educational experience to a diverse cross-section of students, including groups that have historically been underrepresented in higher education. SCUs like NKU create a skilled workforce to support business needs while advancing economic progress and cultural development. This is a hallmark of NKU and why NKU is ranked the No. 1 Return on Investment in Kentucky by Affordable Colleges Online.

COLLEGE CORNER

COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

The NKU College of Health Professions Doctor of Nursing Practice program has been accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN). This online, 35-credit hour sequential program leads to the Doctor in Nursing Practice degree, with courses and practicum/project work that focus on leadership, evidence-based practice, and population health. Students in the DNP program at NKU are typically seasoned professionals, including nurse practitioners, administrators, and educators in either academic or health care organizations.

READ MORE: <http://tinyurl.com/ooozgjy>

NKU MADE A WINNING CASE FOR KEISHA FRAZIER



Keisha Frazier, who strives to practice constitutional law and one day become a judge, didn't have to deliberate much before deciding to attend Northern Kentucky University.

The 20-year-old political science major from Eastern High School in Louisville made her decision after meeting some of her future professors during a campus visit. Keisha plans to graduate in 2016 and continue on with law school to fulfill her dreams.

"I came on a campus visit and was given the opportunity to talk with some of the professors in political science and I loved their teaching styles and how easy it was to speak with them," Keisha says. "Being a student at NKU provides you with so many opportunities, and it's just a matter of taking the initiative to walk through the door. NKU not only opens doors, but the people help guide you through those doors."



THE SCOREBOARD

NKU will join the Horizon League as its 10th member, effective July 1, 2015. The move will significantly reduce travel costs while advancing the university's athletics mission of supporting student-athlete well-being and establishing relationships with alumni, friends, and fans. The conference holds a rich tradition of success in NCAA championships, including a 19-16 record and two national title game appearances in the men's basketball tournament over the last 13 years.

FACULTY FOCUS

Dr. Kirsten Schwarz, assistant professor of biology at Northern Kentucky University, led a research team that used high-res land-cover data and census information to study the distribution of trees in relationship to race and income in several major cities across the U.S. The findings of Dr. Schwarz's work, recently published in *PLOS ONE*, offers a provocative look across several U.S. cities at what neighborhoods are most likely to have urban tree canopy (UTC) cover. The research article was picked up by *The Atlantic* magazine, which reported and published its own story on Dr. Schwarz's work last month. "Schwarz's research," *The Atlantic* wrote, "is among the first to calculate what is most strongly correlated with tree density and distribution across multiple cities."

READ MORE: <http://tinyurl.com/ov2yhe5>

BRIEFS

NKU COURSE EXPLORES GLOBAL TERRORISM

A year ago, most people had not heard of the acronym ISIS or didn't know what it represented. While that has changed, even today few people know much about the Islamic State. For some NKU students, that will change this summer during NKU's new five-week online course to enhance knowledge and understanding about ISIS and other terrorist groups. The terrorism class is part of the NKU Master of Public Administration curriculum and will concentrate on the theoretical essentials of terrorism and their applications to counterterrorism at the local, state, national, and international levels.

READ MORE:

<http://mpa.nku.edu>

EIGHT NKU STUDENTS EARN RECOGNITION AT NATIONAL CRYPTANALYSIS COMPETITION

Eight students from NKU earned recognition at the KRYPTOS cryptanalysis competition presented by the Pacific Northwest Section of the Mathematical Association of America. A total of 153 students from 67 teams participated, representing colleges, universities, academies, institutes, and high schools from 21 states. The five participants from NKU who earned the Turing level of achievement as master codebreakers solved all three challenges in the competition.

READ MORE:

http://nku.edu/news/_150420kryptos.html

CONNETIC VENTURES TO COLLABORATE WITH NKU CENTER FOR INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Starting this summer, Connetic Ventures will collaborate with NKU's Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (CIE) to help network and educate the budding talent brought forward by the NKU Haile/US Bank College of Business programs.

"The CIE continues to impress us both with the leadership and the students," said Meena Maddali, operating partner, Connetic Ventures. "The energy is exactly what our region needs to continue to be a leader in entrepreneurship, and Connetic would like to support these students in hopes others will do the same."

READ MORE:

http://nku.edu/news/_150518connetic.html

NKU MPA ALUMNUS, STUDENT TO BE HONORED FOR PUBLIC SERVICE

The regional chapter of the American Society for Public Administration has chosen Travis Brown, a current student from the NKU Master of Public Administration program, and John P. Scott, a 2013 NKU MPA alumnus, as public administrators of the year. Mr. Brown, a law enforcement veteran, turned a class assignment into a published article in *The Journal of Law Enforcement* in 2014. Mr. Scott received the Early Careerist Award for his work.

READ MORE:

http://nku.edu/news/_150324mpa.html

ALUMNI NEWS



Tucked away in a cozy office near Amelia, entrepreneur and NKU alumna Ngozi Victoria Uti is building the Netflix of Nigeria. Similar to the video streaming service that Netflix offers in the U.S., the company is called NollyLand Direct Ltd., and it already is streaming African-produced TV programs and films to subscribers around the world. Outside the U.S., more than 17,000 people downloaded the NollyLand app on Apple. More than 16,000 have downloaded it on Android. And another 3,200 have downloaded the app on Blackberry and Roku combined, said Dr. Uti, the company's founder, CEO and technical mastermind. And that's after being in business for only five months. Dr. Uti was NKU's top graduate in computer science in 2002.

READ MORE: [HTTP://WWW.NOLLYLAND.COM/](http://www.nollyland.com/)